

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 06850 212210Z
ACTION ARA-14

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O P 212142Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9082
WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

UNCLAS BOGOTA 6850

DEPT FOR BARNEBEY ARA

WHITE HOUSE FOR PASTOR NSC

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP, CO
SUBJ: PROGRAM FOR THE INAUGURATION OF COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT

REF: BOGOTA 6397

1. DIPLOMATIC NOTE CONTAINING NAMES OF MEMBERS OF U.S. SPECIAL MISSION WAS HANDED TO PROTOCOL OFFICIAL AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AT 1130 A.M. ON FRIDAY, JULY 21.

2. ONE NEW FUNCTION HAS BEEN ADDED TO SCHEDULE AS OUTLINED REFTTEL, NAMELY AN OFFICIAL GREETING BY THE SPECIAL MISSION TO THE PRESIDENT AT 1030 ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 8 IN THE SAN CARLOS PALACE. ON THIS OCCASION, THE SPECIAL MISSIONS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT, THE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET AND THE SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENCY AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. A BRIEF GREETING WILL BE GIVEN BY THE DEAN OF THE SPECIAL MISSIONS (VATICAN REPRESENTATIVE) AND THE PRESIDENT WILL RESPOND, FOLLOWED BY A ROUND OF CHAMPAGNE. DRESS FOR THIS OCCASION IS MORNING COAT.

3. EMBASSY OFFICERS ASKED PROTOCOL OFFICIAL IF SUPPORT STAFF
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 06850 212210Z

MEMBERS COULD BE INCLUDED IN INAUGURAL AND OTHER CEREMONIES. WE HOPE TO HAVE AN OFFICIAL ANSWER BY JULY 24 OR 25. UNOFFICIAL OPINION OF PROTOCOL OFFICIAL WAS THAT THEY COULD BE INVITED TO THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY, BUT NOT AS PART OF THE DELEGATION, I.E. THEY WOULD BE SPECIAL GUESTS WHO WOULD BE SEATED IN GALLERIES APART FROM THE OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS. THEY TOO WOULD BE REQUIRED TO WEAR MORNING COAT ATTIRE.

4. BY MEANS OF A DIPLOMATIC NOTE, EMBASSY REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT FOR SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL WITH PRESIDENT TURBAY, AND SUGGESTED MORNING OF AUGUST 8. IN VIEW OF ADDITIONAL FUNCTION DESCRIBED ABOVE, THE MEETING WOULD HAVE TO BE AN EARLY MORNING ONE, PERHAPS BREAKFAST. AS TURBAY IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY NOW ON VACATION, IT MAY BE SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE WE HAVE AN ANSWER.

5. FOR POSSIBLE WORKING CONTACTS WITH HIGH-LEVEL MEMBERS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS, WE HOPE TO HAVE A LIST OF THESE PERSONS TO FORWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT NEXT WEEK.

6. WE DO NOT YET HAVE THE NAME OF THE COLOMBIAN OFFICIAL WHO WILL MEET THE USDEL ON ARRIVAL. IT PROBABLY WILL BE THE PERSON SELECTED BY PROTOCOL TO BE THE ESCORT FOR THE DELEGATION. WE WILL ADVISE LATER.

7. WIVES ARE NOT INCLUDED AS MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL MISSION TO ATTEND THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY, BUT COULD BE INVITED TO ATTEND AS SPECIAL GUESTS WITH SEATING IN THE GALLERY. PLEASE ADVISE IF WE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN SUCH INVITATIONS.

8. EXCEPT FOR MORNING COAT REQUIREMENT FOR THE INAUGURATION ITSELF AND THE GREETING-TOAST ON THE MORNING OF AUGUST 8, ALL OTHER OCCASIONS CALL FOR DARK BUSINESS SUIT FOR MEN. LADIES, WHETHER DELEGATES OR ACCOMPANYING WIVES, SHOULD ALSO WEAR DARK STREET UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 06850 212210Z

CLOTHES TO THESE FUNCTIONS.

9. MORNING COAT MEANS A CUTAWAY COAT, STRIPED PANTS, GREY VEST (DOUBLE BREASTED WAISTCOAT), PLAIN WHITE SHIRT, PEARL GREY TIE, BLACK SOCKS AND SHOES. NO HAT REQUIRED.

10. FOR LADIES, DARK SOLID COLOR SUIT OR DRESS WITH GLOVES, NO HAT.

11. FOR THE EVENING RECEPTION ON AUGUST 9, IF ANYONE STAYS FOR THIS FUNCTION, IT IS COCKTAIL DRESS, THREE-QUARTER LENGTH, FOR THE LADIES. DARK BUSINESS SUIT FOR MEN. THE LUNCHEON ON THE TENTH WILL BE HELD AT THE LOS LAGARTOS COUNTRY CLUB AND IS INFORMAL. SPORT CLOTHES ARE CALLED FOR. NO OTHER GUIDANCE FROM PROTOCOL FOR THIS OCCASION. IF THE SUN IS OUT, THE TEMPERATURE WILL BE PLEASANT (70 DEGREES IN THE SHADE); IF NOT, IT WILL BE COOL AT ABOUT 60 DEGREES. TEMPERATURES IN THE EVENING DROP TO 45 DEGREES TO 55 DEGREES, SO FALL WEIGHT CLOTHING SHOULD BE THE NORM. TOP COATS FOR MEN ARE NOT REQUIRED, BUT LADIES SHOULD BRING ONE. FURS ARE QUITE APPROPRIATE ALSO. RAINCOATS AND UMBRELLAS MAY BE REQUIRED BY MEN AND WOMEN.
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